

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P R 261440Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6005

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

S E C R E T KINSHASA 11141

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS (1)

TAGS: PFOR, CG, BE

SUBJECT: MOBUTU AND SGM CONTRACT

REF: KINSHASA 10722; BRUSSELS 7450

1. PRESIDENT MOBUTU DEC 24 SUMMONED BELGIAN CHARGE CAHEN AND LOCAL REP OF SOCIETE GENERALE DES MINERAIS (SGM) TO INQUIRE HOW SGM WAS COMING ALONG WITH ITS NEW PROPOSALS (KINSHASA 10722). VAN LOOK SAID SGM IN PROCESS OF DEVELOPING PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD PERMIT GOZ TO SUPERVISE (CONTROLLER) THE MARKETING OF COPPER FROM THE TIME IT LEFT SHABA TO ITS FINAL BUYER.

2. MOBUTU SAID THIS WAS NOT SUFFICIENT. HE STATED HE WAS DISSATISFIED WITH THE 1969 MARKETING AGREEMENT. FIRST, HE CONSIDERED COMPENSATION HAD BY THIS TIME BEEN PAID TO UNION MINIERE STOCKHOLDERS. SECOND, IT WAS NOT ENOUGH FOR GOZ TO SUPERVISE SGM'S MARKETING OPERATIONS. WHAT WAS NEEDED PERHAPS WAS A ZAIRIAN MARKETING COMPANY WITH WHICH SGM COULD BE ASSOCIATED.

3. CAHEN AND VAN LOOK SAID MOBUTU'S REMARK WENT FAR BEYOND REVISING TERMS OF 1969 AGREEMENT. ALL THEY COULD DO WAS REPORT TO BRUSSELS AND AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS.

4. COMMENT: CAHEN URGES THIS INFORMATION BE VERY CLOSELY
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HELD. AS BRUSSELS 7450 INDICATES, NOT EVEN SENIOR LEVELS OF

SGM AWARE THAT MOBUTU HAS ASKED FOR PROPOSALS. CAHEN
SPECULATES MOBUTU'S DEC 24 STATEMENTS MAY BE INITIAL
NEGOTIATING POSITION. HE IS ENCOURAGED IN THIS ASSESSMENT
BY FACT MOBUTU ADVANCED THEM IN PRIVATE RATHER THAN ANNOUNCING
THEM PUBLICLY AS AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT. CAHEN BELIEVES GOB
MAY ELECT TAKE MATTER UP WITH WORLD BANK WHICH BLESSED
1969 AGREEMENT. AS OF PRESENT, CAHEN HAS NOT RPT NOT
TOLD LOCAL REP OF WORLD BANK OF FOREGOING.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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